



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Sandra Gioia Treadway
Librarian of Virginia

Library of Virginia Announces Finalists for the 23rd Annual Literary Awards *A week of virtual events will be open to the public*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RICHMOND, VIRGINIA – Ten authors are finalists for the Library of Virginia’s 23rd Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards. The finalists were chosen by an independent panel of judges from more than 130 books nominated for the awards. The winner in each category will be selected from among these finalists and announced during a virtual celebration at the Library of Virginia on Saturday, October 17, 2020.

The 2020 Library of Virginia Literary Award finalists are:

FICTION FINALISTS

ANGIE KIM | *Miracle Creek*
TARA LASKOWSKI | *One Night Gone*
CHRISTOPHER TILGHMAN | *Thomas and Beal in the Midi*

NONFICTION FINALISTS

TRESSIE MCMILLAN COTTOM | *Thick: And Other Essays*
MARY M. LANE | *Hitler’s Last Hostages: Looted Art and the Soul of the Third Reich*
ERIK NIELSON & ANDREA L. DENNIS | *Rap on Trial: Race, Lyrics, and Guilt in America*

POETRY FINALISTS

LAUREN K. ALLEYNE | *Honeyfish*
DAVID HUDDLE | *My Surly Heart*
BENJAMIN NAKA-HASEBE KINGSLEY | *Colonize Me*

The finalists for the Library’s People’s Choice Awards for fiction and nonfiction were announced in a previous news release: www.lva.virginia.gov/news/press/News_Release_2020_Peoples_Choice_Awards_from_the_Library_of_Va.pdf

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“The Commonwealth of Virginia is home to many talented writers whose work inspires and informs readers across the world,” said Librarian of Virginia Sandra G. Treadway. “The Library’s annual Literary Awards Celebration is such a joyous way to honor their amazing work and to introduce them to new audiences.”

The Library of Virginia Literary Awards will be celebrated virtually this year with a week of author conversations and special events—which will be accessible to the public—beginning Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Anchoring the week will be the Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award on Friday, October 16, and the Library of Virginia Literary Awards on Saturday, October 17, with our nominated authors, presenters, and special guests. This annual event, sponsored by Dominion Energy, attracts library supporters, authors, publishers, and those who enjoy the written word. Award-winning Virginia author Adriana Trigiani will again serve as host for the evening.

The winners will be announced on Saturday, October 17, 2020, during the virtual celebration. Each winner will receive an engraved crystal book and a monetary prize of \$2,500. For awards information and a list of past winners and finalists, please visit www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards/index.htm.

For sponsorship or more information about the 23rd Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration honoring Virginia authors and friends, please call 804.692.3813 or email Dawn Greggs at dawn.greggs@lva.virginia.gov.

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